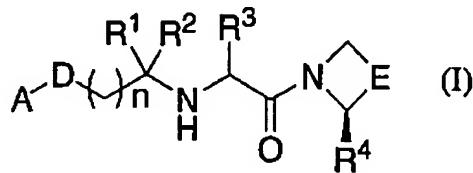


**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

**ABSTRACT**

A dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor which is satisfactory in respect of activity, stability and safety and has an excellent action as a pharmaceutical agent. A compound represented by the following general formula or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each represents hydrogen, an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, or -COOR<sup>5</sup> whereupon R<sup>5</sup> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, or R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and a carbon atom together represent a 3- to 6-membered cycloalkyl group, R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C6-10 aryl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents a hydrogen or a cyano group, D represents -CONR<sup>6</sup>-, -CO- or -NR<sup>6</sup>CO-, R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, E represents -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- whereupon m is 1 to 3, -CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>-, or -SCH<sub>2</sub>-, n is 0 to 3, and A represents an optionally substituted bicyclic heterocyclic group or bicyclic hydrocarbon group.